RESPONSE AND RCE

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

MAY 26 2004

Sir:

TECH CENTER 1699/2900

This is in response to an Office Action dated 17 December 2003. A response was due 17 March 2004. A two-month extension of time is hereby requested to make this response due 17 May 2004. A check in the amount of \$595.00 is enclosed in payment of both the \$210.00 extension fee and the \$385.00 fee for requesting continued examination. It is believed that no other fee is presently due to maintain this application in full force and effect, but if any such fee is due, please charge this to Deposit Account No. 08-1254.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.

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